

**Priority Areas for
2019 Funding Exercise of
Beat Drugs Fund Regular Funding Scheme**

Treatment and Rehabilitation (T&R)

- (a) Projects that take into account the latest demographic characteristics of drug abusers and cater for their varying needs. They may include young adults (aged 21 - 35), female drug abusers including pregnant women/mothers, ethnic minorities (EMs) and sexual minorities. The projects could be on a pilot basis, community or residential based, or involve treatment in a hospital setting or in an outreaching mode.
- (b) Projects that support family members of drug abusers, which could serve as a means of engaging hidden drug abusers in families, strengthening the motivation of drug abusers to quit drugs, as well as preventing inter-generational drug abuse patterns.
- (c) Projects that promote/strengthen collaboration among various sectors and service modes to tackle the increasingly complex psychotropic substance abuse (PSA) cases, especially those involving “Ice”, cocaine and/or cannabis abuse, and to facilitate a continuum of T&R services for drug abusers. Key players may involve community-based service units, residential drug treatment and rehabilitation centres, medical services, law enforcement agencies, other welfare service units as well as non-governmental organisations or bodies serving specific groups.
- (d) Projects that facilitate early identification of drug abusers and intervention, including but not limited to peer snowballing, closer collaboration with parties which may have contact with drug abusers in their services for case referral, etc.
- (e) Projects that strengthen aftercare services for those who have successfully quitted drugs so as to minimise relapse and facilitate reintegration into society. Examples include counselling at post-treatment stage, occupational therapies, vocational training, provision of job placement opportunities, job counselling, mentorship programmes, etc.

- (f) Projects that provide structured training or platforms for experience sharing among anti-drug workers, medical professionals and related sectors/personnel to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge of handling the increasingly complex PSA cases.

Preventive Education and Publicity

- (g) Projects that enhance awareness of drug harms of cannabis, particularly in providing correct information on the harms of cannabis abuse, rectifying mistaken concepts and helping identify cannabis products, among members of the public especially young people, students and parents.
- (h) Projects that enhance awareness of drug harms of other popular drugs such as cocaine and “Ice”, among the general youth, high-risk youth, students, EMs and/or sexual minorities, who may be at risks of drug abuse, particularly in providing preventive education on harms associated with drug abuse, rectifying mistaken concepts and promoting attitudinal change towards drugs, encouraging early help-seeking, and enhancing knowledge of the serious consequences of committing drug-related offences.
- (i) Projects that enhance awareness of the drug problem among young adults (aged 21 - 35), young persons who fall outside the school network, employers and/or business operators, increase understanding of the harms of prevalent drugs, develop resilience towards drug temptation, facilitate identification of hidden abusers, encourage early help-seeking, and establish a drug-free culture at workplace.
- (j) Projects that enhance the awareness of families, especially at-risk families (e.g. teenage mothers, parents or family members being ex-drug abusers, and family members being high-risk youth), of the drug problem, and strengthen the role and abilities of family members in reducing the risk of drug abuse, identifying hidden abusers early and encouraging early help-seeking.
- (k) Projects that promote community acceptance of T&R services and facilities and reintegration of rehabilitees into the society.

Research

- (l) Researches on the characteristics of PSA, particularly on psychotropic substances which have gained prevalence in Hong Kong such as “Ice”, cocaine and cannabis to provide more information about the drug harms and to identify suitable treatment methods.
- (m) Researches on the behavioural patterns (e.g. reasons for hidden drug abuse, relapse and its prevention, and impacts of inter-generational drug abuse) of different groups of drug abusers (e.g. female drug abusers, pregnant drug abusers, working drug abusers, and drug abusers of EMs).

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